

## THE CONDITION OF TRADE.

More Activity Than Was Expected so Soon After the New Year.

## SATISFACTORY PRICES FOR PRODUCE.

An Encouraging Advance in Live Stock With an Understood Decline—Interesting Features in the Speculative Markets.

The financial situation in Omaha remains practically unchanged, and money in this city and the state at large is close. Several failures occurred in the state during the past week due to the scarcity of money and the difficulty of making collections. Tight money in Nebraska at a time when it is easy in most other states is a matter in which the business community is deeply interested and it is almost impossible to talk with a business man for the space of five minutes without having the subject brought up.

There is no necessity for dwelling at length on the present conditions as that is fully expressed by the three words, "money is tight," but it may be of some advantage to review the causes which led up to the present conditions of the money market in this way so that the mind of the disinterested may be clear in Omaha after it has become plenty in most other large cities. A financial stringency, bordering on a panic, was brought about in New York by a combination of causes, unnecessary to go into, resulting in that time, when gold spread over the whole country. At first it was felt in Omaha but in the course of a little time money also became close here. Then came the reaction, money became more and more plentiful in New York and this influence also spread rapidly, so that in a short time we missed Omaha and money countries scarce here as business men know to their cost. But during the time intervening between the appearance of the stringency and its final disappearance in New York, we were compelled to wait, the market got a set back on Friday and the week closed lower. The range of prices for the week was \$3.30-\$3.65.

SPECULATIVE MARKETS

For the week under review were by no means devoid of interesting features. In the Chicago wheat market early in the week the grain was held firm, continuing a wild swing to about \$1.50 for May. The strongest also closed their lines, thus pretty well evening up the market. Since Tuesday it has been a rather dull and featureless market with a decided downward tendency.

Corn was comparatively dull all the week. One prominent short was forced to cover above 45c. Since then the market has been chiefly governed by the recent financial scare, and still the two days when more liberal margins and an easier feeling and the market declined to within 3c of last week's close.

Provisions continued dull and heavy on the large part of the day and continued selling by packers, the close being very nearly bottom prices for this year.

The following table will show the opening and closing prices of the week and also the highest and lowest for each day of the week at Chicago and St. Louis:

	Chicago	St. Louis
Avg. Price	\$3.30	\$3.65
Mon.	\$3.30	\$3.65
Tue.	\$3.30	\$3.65
Wed.	\$3.30	\$3.65
Thur.	\$3.30	\$3.65
Fri.	\$3.30	\$3.65
Sat.	\$3.30	\$3.65
Sun.	\$3.30	\$3.65
Mon.	\$3.30	\$3.65
Tue.	\$3.30	\$3.65
Wed.	\$3.30	\$3.65
Thur.	\$3.30	\$3.65
Fri.	\$3.30	\$3.65
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